



News Release

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
John L. Clayton, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Visit our DES web site at
www.de.state.az.us

MEDIA CONTACT

Public Information Office
(602) 542-4296

PINAL COUNTY PROCUREMENT SEMINAR TO BE HELD

(Phoenix, February 6, 2003)-The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), the Central Arizona College Small Business Development Center (CAC SBDC) and the U.S. Small Business Administration are pleased to announce that they are sponsoring the **2003 Pinal County Procurement Seminar, "Partnering with Government"**. This event is scheduled to occur on Wednesday, February 19, 2003 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Central Arizona College, Signal Peak Campus, 8470 N. Overfield Road in Coolidge, Arizona. The cost is \$15.00 per person and will include a light lunch.

Key to the development and coordination of this event are Anna Maria Chavez, DES Administrative Counsel & Acting Assistant Director for the Division of Aging and Community Services and Bennett Curry, Director, CAC SBDC. The event brochure and registration information can be accessed on the website for DES at:
<http://www.de.state.az.us/opac/events>.

Each year our government spends billions of dollars in goods and services. This procurement seminar is designed to provide key information about how to compete for those government dollars. A series of presenters will be brought together to share valuable information on the type of economic benefits that result from doing business with all levels of government, to break the myths behind business certifications, and to advise small, minority- and women-owned businesses on gaining a competitive edge.

This event is also intended to provide an opportunity for procurement officials to share information about their specific purchasing programs and to meet potential suppliers and providers. Representatives from the U.S. General Services Administration, Arizona State Procurement Office, Arizona Game and Fish, and other federal, state, county, and local government entities will be present.

In addition to the various learning and networking opportunities scheduled throughout the day, the final hour of the seminar will offer concurrent breakout sessions. The Small Business Development Center will coordinate a Lenders Fair between business owners, bankers, and the U.S. Small business Administration.

Simultaneously, the Small Business Development Center and the Central Arizona College Workforce will provide detailed information about services and training opportunities available through the college.

Though the focus of the seminar is the Pinal County area anyone interested in partnering with government is encouraged to attend.